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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 218 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY SCHREIBER, MURT, FREEMAN, THOMAS, BROWNLEE,  
HENNESSEY, FRANKEL, V. BROWN, SCHLOSSBERG, KINSEY, KIRKLAND,  
LONGIETTI, ROZZI, FARINA, YOUNGBLOOD, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI,  
WHEELAND, O'BRIEN, MILLARD, McNEILL, SCHWEYER, WATSON, ROSS,  
TALLMAN, COHEN, READSHAW, D. COSTA, MAJOR, MAHONEY, GINGRICH,  
KIM, BRADFORD AND McCARTER, APRIL 8, 2015

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 8, 2015

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating March 18, 2015, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania.

2 WHEREAS, Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable  
3 death in the United States, imposing a terrible toll in terms of  
4 health, lives and dollars on families, businesses and  
5 government; and

6 WHEREAS, Tobacco kills more than 400,000 people annually,  
7 more than AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, illegal drugs, murders  
8 and suicides combined; and

9 WHEREAS, Tobacco costs the United States more than \$96  
10 billion in health care expenditures and \$97 billion in lost  
11 productivity each year; and

12 WHEREAS, While the United States has made major progress  
13 against tobacco use, nearly one in five Americans still smokes;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Each day roughly 3,000 youth under 18 years of age

1 try smoking for the first time and more than 700 youth become  
2 new regular, daily smokers; and

3 WHEREAS, One in three of these youth will die prematurely  
4 because of tobacco use; and

5 WHEREAS, Eight hundred million packs of cigarettes are  
6 consumed by children each year; and

7 WHEREAS, Approximately 480,000 people die each year from  
8 their own cigarette smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke; and

9 WHEREAS, Sixteen million people in the United States  
10 currently suffer from smoking-caused illness; and

11 WHEREAS, The total annual public and private health care  
12 expenditures caused by smoking is at least \$132.5 billion; and

13 WHEREAS, Annual tobacco industry spending on marketing its  
14 products nationwide is \$8.8 billion or \$24 million each day,  
15 with much of the marketing aimed at children; and

16 WHEREAS, It is imperative that visible, unified tobacco  
17 cessation and prevention education efforts by community members  
18 be launched to encourage all tobacco users to become tobacco-  
19 free; and

20 WHEREAS, Businesses, government, law enforcement, schools,  
21 faith-based institutions, service organizations, youth,  
22 physicians, senior citizens, military, sports teams and  
23 individuals from all other walks of life will demonstrate their  
24 commitment to tobacco-free, healthy lifestyles by participating  
25 in "Kick Butts Day"; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March  
27 18, 2015, as "Kick Butts Day" in Pennsylvania, and encourage  
28 residents of all ages to participate in tobacco cessation and  
29 prevention education activities to make a visible show of  
30 support for our strong commitment to a tobacco-free community,

1 encouraging all youth and adults to pledge to be tobacco-free.